

P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gene DIPOTO et al.

Confirmation No.: 9623

Serial No.: 10/693,663

Examiner: James L. Swiger, III

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Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: 1291.1142101

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Title: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR FIXATION OF THE SPINE
THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE

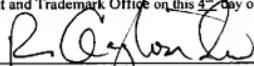
AMENDMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 CFR §1.111 RESPONSE

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this 4th day of November 2008.

By _____



Rachel Gagliardi

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action of the Examiner mailed August 4, 2008, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on November 4, 2008. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0413.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.